

the General Assembly when it adjourned a few weeks ago. Like many other citizens, I had my disappointments, too, but I believe that by any fair appraisal, the 1965 session must be considered a constructive and an effective one. I should like to tell you why I think so.

By the sheer quantity of its workload alone, this year's regular session of our Legislature was an impressive one. By any measurement, it must be considered the busiest session on record. It handled nearly 1,900 bills — an all-time record — with committee hearings and time-consuming floor debates on many of them. Limited to 70 days, under a new constitutional provision, it jammed into that time more work than was done in most of the past 90-day sessions. Of course our judgment of a legislative performance should be based not so much on quantity as on quality, but with quality as the standard I believe the 1965 session must be adjudged a constructive one.

Just briefly — and with no hope of being comprehensive — I should like to review some of the legislation that was adopted which leads me to that conclusion. This includes bills to expand the State's efforts in public education, in health and mental hygiene, in welfare services. It includes a measure to redefine the boundaries of our Congressional districts to provide a fairer representation in the Congress of the United States. There are numerous bills to improve the regulation of motor vehicles and highway safety, to solve problems in the insurance field and to broaden the State's activity in many other fields which affect the daily lives of the citizens of our State.

It is true that our plan for Congressional redistricting has not met with universal approval, but I can assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that a plan wholly satisfactory to everyone would be impossible to devise. I maintain, further, that it is a good plan — certainly as good as we have reason to expect under the circumstances. It is true, also, that the Legislature failed to adopt an equitable reapportionment of the Senate and the House of Delegates which I had requested in the message that I delivered at the opening of the session. But I have asked the Legislative Council to work on reapportionment legislation during the coming summer months, and it is my hope that in a special session that a law can be passed that will meet the Supreme Court's mandate to apportion legislative seats in a manner to conform with the court's "one man, one vote" principle.

It is in the less spectacular, less sensational areas of endeavor that I think the General Assembly achieved its greatest success. I have in mind in particular the advances that were made in such vital State